

Remarks

Deputy Chief of Mission Sandra Clark

Ambassador's Self-Help Program

Diass Primary School – Project Inauguration

Department of Thiès

Thursday, January 30, 10:15 a.m.

(As prepared)

Asalamu Alekum, Mbooloomi !

Greetings of Peace

Mbokki Diass!

Oh people of Diass!

Mangi leen di nuyu, ku ci nekk ci sa tuur ak sa sante !

We greet each of you by your name and by your family name.

On behalf of the Ambassador of the United States of America to Senegal, Lewis Lukens, it is with great pleasure that I come to Diass to inaugurate this important project that improves student and teachers' daily lives. The U.S. Government is honored to have financially supported the Parents' Association's efforts to ensure sanitation facilities for their children.

I have learned that in matching the U.S. Embassy's contribution, parents donated their labor to realize this project. To the students here today, I would ask, what actions could speak more strongly about the commitment of your parents to your education and welfare?

The Ambassador's Self-Help Program at the United States Embassy supports local, and community-based initiatives and micro-projects. This program targets community groups, cooperatives, associations, and well-organized village committees devoted to the development of their community. By partnering with community groups throughout Senegal, we support their efforts to develop and invest in projects that respond to community needs and provide tangible benefits.

The Parents' Association of Diass is one of the organizations that captured the interest of the U.S. Embassy thanks to their motivation and initiative in striving to improve the educational facilities in Diass. With assistance from the Government of the United States, the Parents Association of Diass has undertaken this important project that will have a lasting, positive impact on students, teachers, and the neighboring community.

The United States of America and the Government of Senegal share the profound conviction that raising our children in a healthy environment is vital to building a bright future. We are committed to promoting the work of Parents' Associations and other civic groups throughout Senegal by providing our support.

I congratulate the Parents' Association of Diass Primary School for completing this project, and wish them every success in their future endeavors.

Gaccé ngaalaama yeen / wa Diass !

We are proud of you!

Jeureujeuf ! Wasalaam !

Thank you. Peace be with you.